

What is claimed is:

1. An image process apparatus comprising:

a halftone process section for performing a halftone process on image data input from an image reading device which reads a document image; and

a block average process section,

wherein the halftone process section generates a continuous pattern in a fashion of a line structure by performing a dither process on the image data input, and

the block average process section divides the image data input into a plurality of blocks whose centers approximately correspond to a centerline of the line structure generated by the halftone process section, calculates an average value of pixel values in each block, and replaces the pixel values in each block with the average value calculated.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the block average process section calculates a weighting average value according to the pixel values in each block and pixel values around each block, and replaces the pixel values in each block with the weighting average value calculated.

3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the block average process section calculates the average value according to the pixel values in each block only, and

replaces the pixel values in each block with the average value calculated.

4. An image process apparatus comprising:

a halftone process section for performing a halftone process on image data input from an image reading device which reads a document image; and

a block average process section,

wherein the halftone process section generates a continuous pattern in a fashion of a line structure by performing a dither process on the image data input, and

the block average process section divides the image data input into a plurality of blocks so as to make a cycle structure of the plurality of blocks correspond to a cycle structure of the pattern generated by the halftone process section, calculates an average value of pixel values in each block, and replaces the pixel values in each block with the average value calculated.